SIEGE™

BENDIS
COIPEL
MORALES
MARTIN

MARVEL® LIMITED SERIES
1 of 4

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SIEGE

NORMAN OSBORN IS THE NEW POLITICAL AND MEDIA DARLING AND DIRECTOR OF H.A.M.M.E.R., THE NATIONAL PEACEKEEPING TASK FORCE WHICH INCLUDES HIS OWN TEAM OF AVENGERS.

AND NORMAN HAS UNVEILED HIS NEW IDENTITY...THE IRON PATRIOT, AND HAS MADE BOLD MOVES ACROSS THE UNITED STATES TO REMAKE THE COUNTRY'S STATUS QUO INTO HIS IMAGE OF JUSTICE AND FAIRNESS–AN IMAGE THAT DOES NOT INCLUDE MUTANT, MONSTER OR VIGILANTE.

THE MIGHTY THOR, GOD OF THUNDER, HAS RECENTLY RETURNED TO EARTH AND BROUGHT THE GOLDEN CITY OF ASGARD AND ALL THE GODS WHO IT CALL HOME WITH HIM. ASGARD FLOATS JUST FEET ABOVE THE FIELDS OF BROXTON, OKLAHOMA.

NORMAN HAS PARTNERED WITH THOR'S BROTHER LOKI IN A PLAN TO OVERTHROW ASGARD. BUT NO ONE KNOWS JUST HOW FRAGILE NORMAN'S DAMAGED PSYCHE IS...

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"MY DEAREST NORMAN, I PRESENT TO YOU... VOLSTAGG."

"I DON'T KNOW WHO THAT IS, LOKI."

"HE IS A MEMBER OF THE WARRIORS THREE."

"I DON'T KNOW WHO ***THEY*** ARE."

"HE IS A PROUD ASGARDIAN WARRIOR AND AN ALLY TO MY BROTHER THOR.

"NOW THAT ASGARD IS ON EARTH HE HAS TAKEN IT UPON HIMSELF TO VENTURE OUT INTO THE WORLD AND FIND ADVENTURE AS HE IMAGINES THOR HAS."

"AND..."

"AND THOUGH VOLSTAGG MAY BE A MIGHTY WARRIOR AND HAS A TRULY BIG HEART... HE IS NO THOR.

"WHEN LAST WE TALKED, NORMAN, WE SPOKE OF CREATING AN INCIDENT. ONE THAT WOULD FURTHER OUR AGENDA.

"ASGARD DOES NOT BELONG ON EARTH AND WE NEED TO RECTIFY THAT SITUATION."

"AND HOW DOES THIS VOLSTAGG PERSON FIT INTO IT?"

WEEEEOOOOOWEEEEOOOOOWEEEEOOOOOWEEEEOOOOO

CHICAGO.

"HE KNOWS NOT THE WAYS OF EARTH.

"HE DOESN'T UNDERSTAND MAN'S TRUE ANIMALISTIC NATURE.

BU DDA BU DDA BU DDA BU DDA

"HE DOESN'T UNDERSTAND HOW LOST AND DEVIANT THE HUMAN MIND CAN BE.

WEEEEOOOOOWEEEEOOOOOWEEEEOOOOOW

SPING

SPAK

SPLICK

WEEEEOOOOOWEEEEOOOOOWEEEEOOOOOWEEEEOOOOO

UH-OH.

"BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY... HE KNOWS NOT THE EFFECT HIS POWER WOULD HAVE UNLEASHED UPON MORTALS...

"EVEN IN THE NAME OF GOOD. EVEN IN THE NAME OF WHAT IS JUST.

HAVE AT THEE!

"HE WILL NOT UNDERSTAND HOW HIS ACTIONS COULD BE PERCEIVED."

SMASH!

WHO THE HELL IS *THAT*?!

WELL, HE'S THE *FATTEST* DAMN SUPER HERO I'VE EVER SEEN...

SHOULD WE ARREST HIM?

FOR HELPING US?

IS HE HELPING US?

"SO, HOLD ON, YOU'RE SAYING--"

"ONE WOULD IMAGINE INVITING EXTRA ELEMENTS INTO VOLSTAGG'S QUEST WOULD EASILY ENSURE...

AND WHAT MIGHT *THIS* BE?

YOU, SIR, ARE CAUSING TOO MUCH COMMOTION.

NO! DON'T TOUCH--

"...DISASTER."

"BUT WHO COULD WE GO TO? NOT THE THUNDERBOLTS, NOT MY AVENGERS..."

"I THOUGHT WE WOULD GO TO PARKER ROBBINS."

"THE HOOD. YES, YES, GOOD...

"BUT TELL HIM WE NEED SOMEONE FROM HIS STABLE THAT... SOMEONE WITH--"

"I KNOW WHAT WE NEED.

"WE NEED POWER."

HA!

"AND NOW YOU HAVE YOUR INCIDENT.

"YOU HAVE IMAGES OF DEATH, DESTRUCTION AND MADNESS.

"IMAGES SEEN ACROSS YOUR WORLD."

VOLSTAGG IS LEFT TO FEND FOR HIMSELF, THE HOOD'S MEN DISAPPEAR INTO THE NIGHT...

...AND YOU HAVE YOUR CAUSE. YOUR PROOF.

PROOF THAT ASGARD DOES NOT BELONG ON MIDGARD.

FINE. TAKE ME OUT OF HERE, LOKI.

THE PROOF YOU NEED TO DO WHAT YOU NEED TO DO.

TAKE ME BACK TO MY OFFICE!

AS YOU WISH.

ARE YOU READY, NORMAN? ARE YOU PREPARED TO DO WHAT YOU MUST DO?

YES.

TELL ME NOW, NORMAN. TELL ME IF YOU ARE NOT.

I'M READY.

THEN MAY YOUR AIM BE TRUE AND YOUR FORCES BE MIGHTY.

LET THE SPIRIT OF MY ALL-SEEING FATHER GUIDE YOU IN WAR.

MAY YOUR VICTORY BRING US BOTH THE POWER WE WERE BORN TO WIELD.

MISTER OSBORN?

WHAT DO YOU NEED ME TO DO?

VICTORIA, I WANT YOU TO INFORM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES THAT WE HAVE THE INCIDENT AT SOLDIER FIELD IN CHICAGO UNDER CONTROL.

DO WE?

TELL HIM WE HAVE IDENTIFIED AND LOCATED THE TRUE PROBLEM.

UM...

DON'T YOU THINK THAT'S SOMETHING YOU SHOULD TELL HIM YOURSELF?

I'M DONE TALKING TO THAT MAN.

BUT YOU *HAVE* TO--DON'T YOU?

ASSEMBLE THE AVENGERS. AND THE FULL ROSTER OF THE INITIATIVE.

WE'RE INVADING ASGARD.

SIR...THERE'S A PROTOCOL HERE THAT YOU NEED TO FOLLOW.

MISS HAND...DO I HAVE YOUR COOPERATION OR DO I NEED TO LOOK ELSEWHERE?

YOU HAVE IT, SIR. I JUST WANT TO--

GOOD.

TRUST ME, MISS HAND.

ALL WILL REVEAL ITSELF.

WELL PUT. BUT, OSBORN, HEAR ME CLEARLY...

I BELIEVE THE PROPER PHRASE YOU MORTALS TURN IS...

..."OVER MY DEAD BODY."

ARES, YOU ARE THE GOD OF WAR...AND WE ARE GOING TO ASGARD AND I NEED A PLAN.

I NEED YOUR HELP.

NO. I WOULD NEVER DO BATTLE AGAINST THE ASGARDIAN GODS.

AND I *WILL* STOP YOU FROM TRYING.

RESPECTFULLY.

BUT ARES, THOR IS NO LONGER THERE, HIS FATHER ODIN IS NO LONGER THERE.

AND OUR INTEL, OUR VERY GOOD INTEL, SAYS WITH ABSOLUTE CERTAINTY THAT THOR'S BROTHER--

LOKI.

--HAS TAKEN HOLD OF ASGARD.

IT IS UNDER THE CONTROL OF A MADMAN AND IT SHOULDN'T EVEN BE HERE IN THE FIRST PLACE.

THIS IS NOT THE FIGHT OF MORTAL MEN.

THEN WHY IS ASGARD HERE IN THE MORTAL WORLD?

IF YOU ARE LYING, I WILL CUT YOUR HEAD OFF.

ARMOR AND ALL.

ARES, IF NOT US, WHO?

AVENGERS TOWER.

WE'RE GOING TO WAR?

NO WAY, OSBORN, NO WAY.

NO?

NO, AS IN THIS ISN'T WHAT WE SIGNED ON FOR. THIS WASN'T THE DEAL.

PROTECTION LEVEL 12

THE DEAL WAS YOU DO WHAT I SAY AND IN RETURN YOU DON'T ROT IN PRISON FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIFE.

YOU GET TO BE AVENGERS. YOU GET TO LIVE IT UP HERE IN NEW YORK CITY.

BEING A SUPER HERO IS ONE THING. GOING UP AGAINST THOR'S FAMILY IS ANOTHER.

ARE YOU AFRAID?

OUT OF MY SOCKS. AND YOU SHOULD BE TOO. ANYONE WHO SAYS OTHERWISE IS LYING.

HERE'S THE DEAL: YOU DO THIS...YOU SEE IT TO THE END, YOU FIGHT FOR ME HERE...

...WE'RE SQUARE.

SQUARE AS IN...

YOUR OBLIGATIONS TO ME ARE DONE.

YOU CAN STAY HERE AND CONTINUE BEING AN AVENGER.

OR YOU CAN GO.

TIME SERVED.

WELL, OKAY THEN...

WARRIORS!

THAT IS WHAT I CALL YOU BECAUSE TODAY THAT IS WHAT YOU ARE!

AND WHETHER YOU HAVE ***TRAINED*** TO BE HERE, ***EARNED*** YOUR WAY HERE, OR THE FATES ***BROUGHT*** YOU HERE...

TODAY! ***TODAY*** IS THE ***REASON*** YOU ARE HERE!

TODAY IS A FIGHT THAT WILL TASK EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU TO RISE TO THE BEST OF YOUR ABILITIES!

YES...WE WILL BE FIGHTING A WORTHY FOE. YOU WILL BE FIGHTING MIGHTY WARRIORS TESTED AND TRUE!

WE KNOW EXACTLY WHO WE ARE FIGHTING TODAY!

BUT ***THEY*** DO NOT!

THEY HAVE NO IDEA WHAT YOU ARE CAPABLE OF!

BUT I KNOW. WE KNOW. AND NOW THE WORLD WILL KNOW!

AND YES--THE EYES OF THE WORLD WILL BE UPON YOU TODAY!

SO GO...AND LET THE WINDS OF HISTORY SPEAK OF YOU LOUDLY AND FOR ALL TIME!

THE WHITE HOUSE.

MISTER PRESIDENT, VICTORIA HAND FROM NORMAN OSBORN'S OFFICE IS ON LINE 9.

WHAT'S GOING ON OVER THERE, HAND?

I'M ASKING YOU WHAT--UH-HUH. UH-HUH.

WELL, I'D LIKE TO SPEAK TO NORMAN *DIRECTLY* ABOUT THIS.

HE *IS?*

OH *REALLY?* UNDER WHOSE AUTHORITY? HIS? HE *DOES?*

WELL, I NEED TO SPEAK TO--I NEED TO SPEAK TO HIM *RIGHT NOW.*

YOU TELL HIM I AM ORDERING HIM TO STAND DOWN UNTIL I HEAR FROM--MISS HAND.

MISS HAND--YOU TELL HIM THE UNITED STATES IS NOT IN THE--NO.

NO. I UNDERSTAND YOUR POSITION, BUT I CANNOT ALLOW HIM TO JUST...

I KNOW WHAT HIS JOB ENTAILS. I UNDERSTAND. BUT I AM *TELLING* YOU...

I'M TELLING YOU--!

DAMN IT!

HE IS OUT OF CONTROL.

ASGARD.
ABOVE BROXTON, OKLAHOMA.

BALDER!

BROTHER BALDER!

YOU ARE NEEDED, MY KING.

LOKI, I WILL NOT *HAVE* THIS. YOU CANNOT APPEAR BEFORE ME LIKE SOME--

WHAT MADNESS ARE YOU--?

LISTEN, BROTHER, GATHER THE TROOPS. BATTEN DOWN THE ENTRANCES TO THE CITY.

THE FORCES OF MIDGARD ARE HEADING TOWARDS YOU.

THKUPTHKUPTHKUPTHKUPTHKUPTHKUPTH

WHAT?

VOLSTAGG'S BLUNDER. IT ROUSED THE IRE OF THE MORTAL MEN.

THE MORTAL--NORMAN OSBORN. I TRIED TO REASON HIM DOWN. BUT HE--THEY ARE COMING HERE. NOW.

WHAT GAME ARE YOU PLAYING NOW, LOKI?

I AM NOT PLAYING ANY GAME HERE. I TRIED TO STOP THIS.

YOU *ARE* PLAYING A GAME.

IF I WAS PLAYING A GAME I WOULD JUST LET THEM COME.

I AM COMING TO YOU, HALF-BROTHER.

THIS ISN'T ABOUT US...IT IS ABOUT ASGARD.

YOU ARE THE KING AND BATTLE IS IMMINENT.

BROXTON, OKLAHOMA.
HALF A MILE AWAY.

I'M GOING TO SET UP IN THE PARK. TRY TO KEEP THE FEED GOING LIVE.

GOT IT.

I CANNOT IMAGINE A MORTAL FORCE THAT COULD POSSIBLY BE ANY THREAT TO THE IMMORTALS OF--

FABOOM

OH MY GOD...LAND THIS THING!

LANDING!

THE SIEGE OF ASGARD-PHASE ONE

LORD ARES, WHAT MADNESS--?!

STOPPING YOU, FANDRAL! BEFORE YOU DO MORE DAMAGE TO THESE GOOD PEOPLE.

THE RUMORS ARE TRUE, BROTHER, HE IS AS MAD AS HIS FATHER.

I WOULDN'T BRING UP HIS FATHER...

KRAKOOM

ARE WE LIVE? GET US LIVE!

HOLY...

I TOLD YA-- I TOLD YOU THIS WOULD HAPPEN ONE DAY!

Tony Stark Medical Journal Update. By Doctor Donald Blake.

Tony's vitals are still weak but getting stronger every day. The town has been unbelievably generous and compassionate towards us hiding out here in--

UH, DOC?

TOOM

BLAKE! HEY! YOU MIGHT WANNA SEE THIS...

WHAT IS IT, MARIA?

UM...

OH, NO...

IT'S OSBORN. HE'S HERE FOR STARK.

MAYBE. BUT IF HE WAS HERE FOR STARK, HE'D BE ***HERE.*** HE'S ATTACKING ASGARD.

WELL, THAT ANSWERS THE QUESTION OF HOW NUTS HE IS...

YOU LISTEN TO ME, HILL...

YOU QUICKLY AND VERY QUIETLY TAKE TONY STARK AND ***GET OUT OF HERE.***

AS FAR AWAY FROM THIS PLACE AS YOU ***POSSIBLY*** CAN.

YOU DON'T STOP. FOR ANYTHING. IF TONY RESISTS YOU, KNOCK HIM OUT.

WHAT ARE ***YOU*** GOING TO DO?

YOU'RE GOING TO NEED A BIGGER STICK.

GUIDE ME, FATHER...

KRAKOA

POSITIONS.

UH, THOR'S HERE.

I SEE THAT.

I THOUGHT YOU SAID THOR WASN'T GOING TO BE HERE.

DON'T WORRY. KEEP FIGHTING.

I'M WORRIED. I'M VERY WORRIED!

BOOM

TOOM

WHAT MADNESS IS THIS?!

SMAKOOM

HIT HIM WITH EVERYTHING. FULL THROTTLE.

DO NOT LET HIM UP.

OH, MAN...

TOOMBOOMTTAOOMBRAKOOMBOOM

TELL ME YOU'RE--

I'M GETTING IT.

@#@$, THEY'RE GOING TO KILL HIM.

YOU DARE...

I DO.

KOOM

THESE IMAGES YOU ARE SEEING ARE LIVE.

LIVE FROM ASGARD

THE MIGHTY THOR IS BEING BROUGHT DOWN BY NORMAN OSBORN AND HIS AVENGERS.

LIVE FROM ASGARD

BROXTON UNDER FIRE, THOR IN BATTLE..

WORD FROM OSBORN'S CAMP IS THAT THIS IS IN RETALIATION FOR THE CHICAGO INCIDENT LAST NIGHT.

WE HAVE BEEN GIVEN UNPRECEDENTED ACCESS TO THIS INITIATIVE AND WE WILL KEEP REPORTING LIVE FOR AS LONG AS--HOLD ON. HOLD ON...

LIVE FROM ASGARD

BROXTON UNDER FIRE, THOR IN BATTLE...DESTRUCTIO

AVENGERS HIDEOUT.

YES, WE HAVE JUST RECEIVED WORD. THOR IS DOWN.

I REPEAT: THOR HAS BEEN TAKEN DOWN. OH MY GOODNESS...

STAY WITH US...

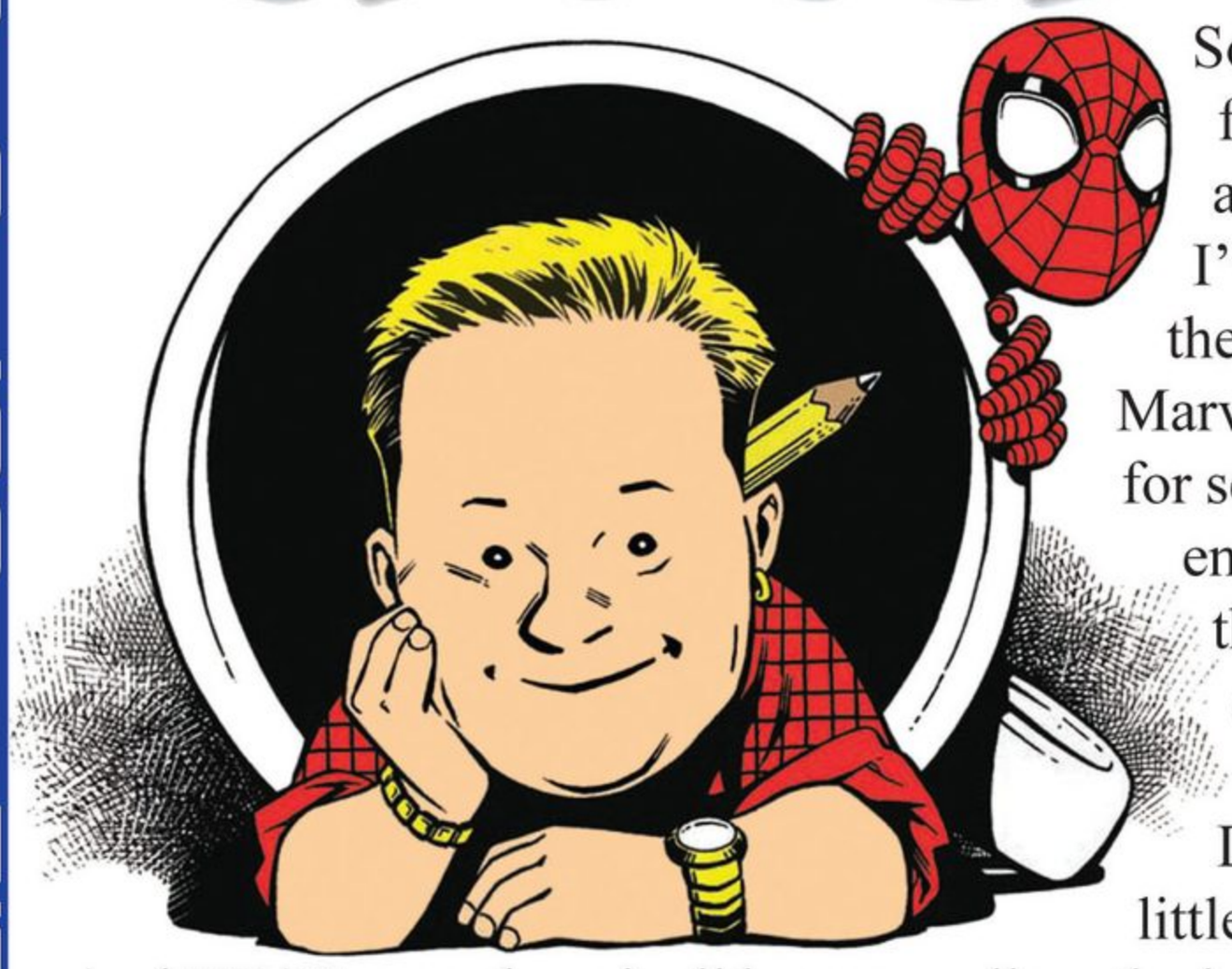
ASGARD

FIRE, THOR IN BATTLE. DESTRUCTIO

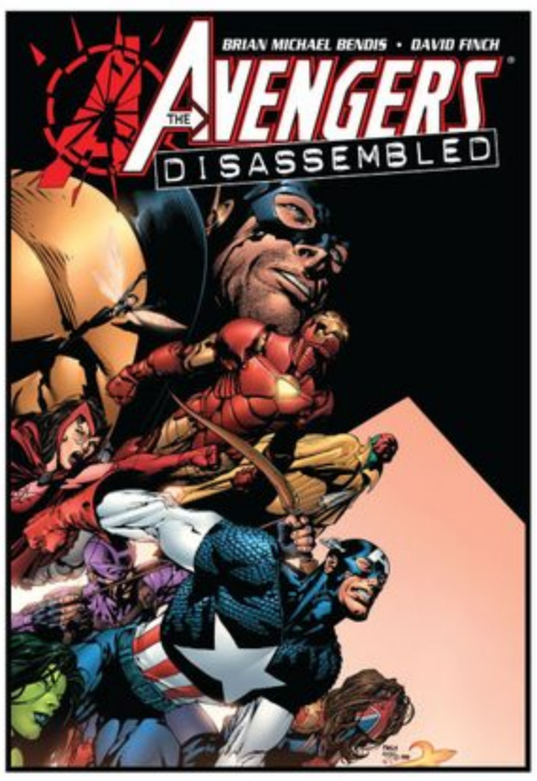
WE'RE STILL TRYING TO PIECE TOGETHER...

TO BE CONTINUED...

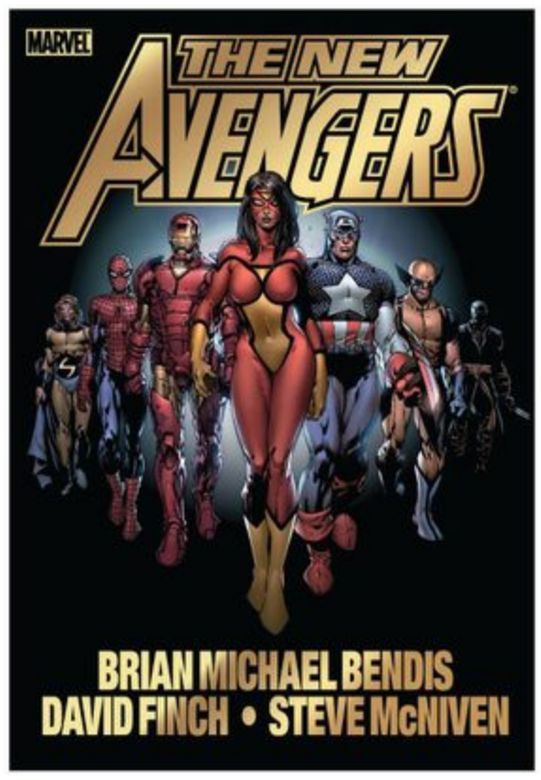
CUP O' JOE

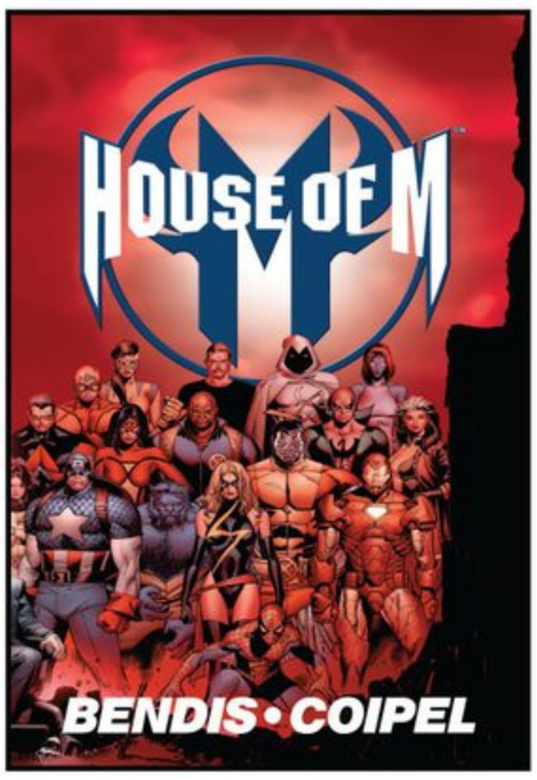


So, True Believers, how was THAT for a beginning? SIEGE is here and I couldn't be more excited! I've been looking forward to you, the faithful followers of the Mighty Marvel mayhem that's been unfolding for seven years, getting to see this -- the endgame! I can't believe it's been that long. It seems like only yesterday we were hiring a young upstart named BRIAN MICHAEL BENDIS to blow up the Avengers in a little event called DISASSEMBLED. And THAT was where it all began, really…the last time the Big Three stood together. What a ride it's been since then...and it's just getting wilder!



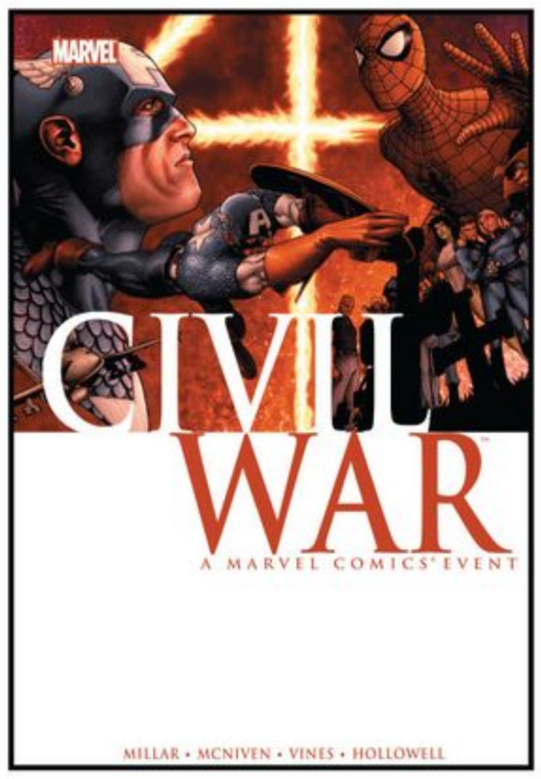
After AVENGERS DISASSEMBLED, the old order changes, but this time, things are very different. Thor's dead and the stakes are higher than ever. So Captain America and Iron Man put together a team truly worthy of the name "Earth's Mightiest Heroes." So, out with the old and in with the NEW AVENGERS, a team that causes a lot of controversy, both in the pages of the books as well as out here in the real world. But what a team, huh?! Spider-Man AND Wolverine as Avengers? And what's brewing in the background of their formation? Well, we knew, but we weren't ready to tell you quite yet.

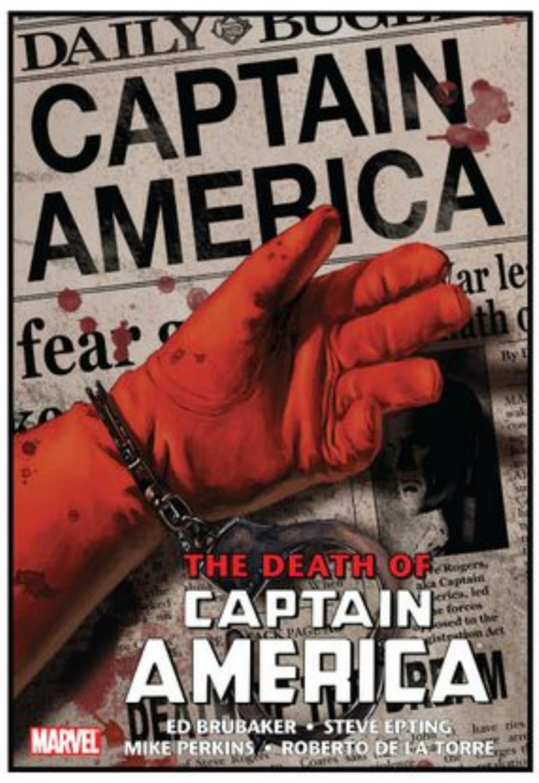




Next thing you know, the Scarlet Witch, the woman responsible for the destruction of the old Avengers, comes back and tries to make everything better. She creates the HOUSE OF M to give everyone their heart's desires. And while it's not meant to be, we DO get a dream team -- the first time BRIAN BENDIS pairs with OLIVIER COIPEL. Together, they make (chaos) magic and wipe out 99% of the world's mutant population while they're at it.

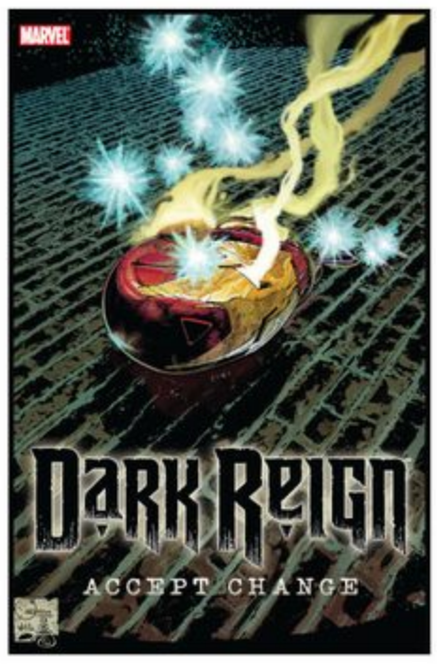
Just as the New Avengers really hit their stride, a rift deeper than anything they had faced before tears them apart in the epic CIVIL WAR. It's Captain America vs. Iron Man in an all-out battle for the ages. Never before had hero been pitted against hero like this, with friends becoming bitter enemies and villains siding with some of the very people who put them behind bars in the first place. Regardless of whose side you're on, this is the event that rips apart the entire Marvel Universe. Some would think, when the dust settles, it would lead into the brightest period of history. Then one shot changes everything…



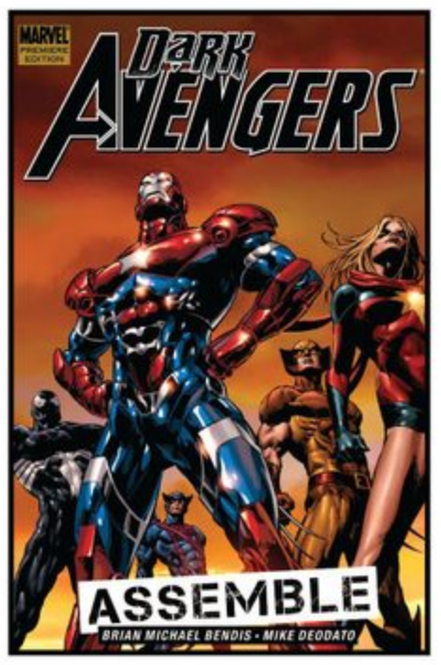


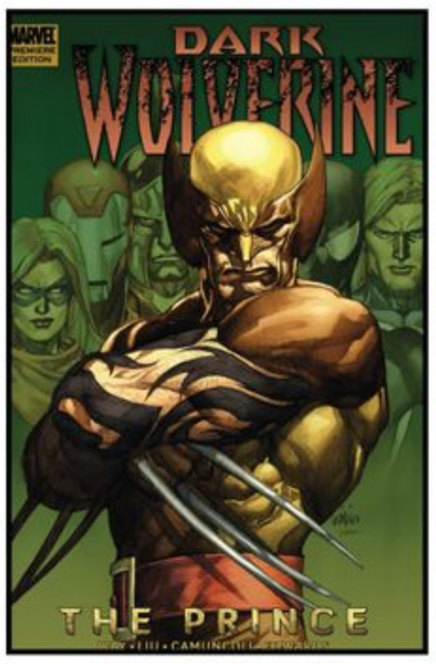
Where are YOU the day Cap dies? I sure remember where *I* am -- running from studio to studio, doing interviews and answering reporters' questions all day. No one can believe we actually did it. The story Ed Brubaker's been weaving since he took over the title stuns everyone, the DEATH OF CAPTAIN AMERICA. But no one is more shocked than the heroes themselves in the Marvel U. Without Captain America, the world is crippled, and the heroes are even further divided. Things go from bad to worse… and they're about to go to "Holy *$^#@* TERRIBLE!"

The Skrulls had been secretly infiltrating the Earth, replacing humans and heroes alike in an effort to divide and conquer so they could take over. They were working behind the scenes, and we were working like crazy to keep you guessing. So, when "Elektra" dies only to be revealed as a Skrull, everyone's asking, "Who do you trust?" The time is right for the largest attack ever seen on our planet: SECRET INVASION. Heroes and villains fight side-by-side to turn the tide of a seemingly unbeatable foe. And out of that battle comes the biggest curveball yet, in a game-changer that births the most unlikely "hero": Norman Osborn saves the day. The world breathes a sigh of relief, thinking the worst is over. But our heroes know better, and you do too, with Norman Osborn and his Cabal of evil in charge…



The DARK REIGN of Norman Osborn gives rise to a dark new world, a world where the DARK AVENGERS are born! Passing themselves off as the heroes the world needs, they are in fact some of the deadliest villains ever assembled. Included in their ranks are two whose loyalties are not quite so clear: Daken, Wolverine's son; and the most powerful hero

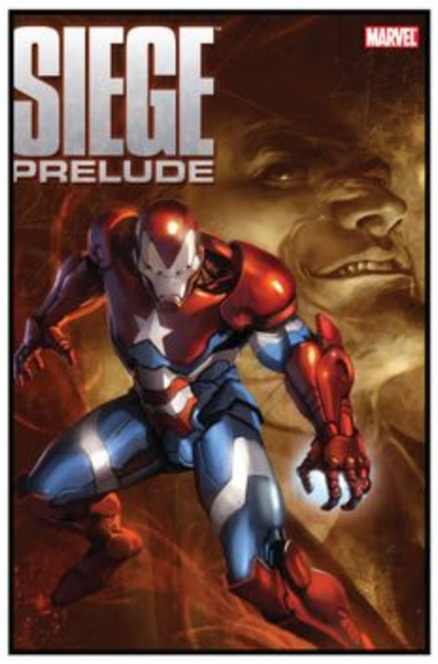




the world had ever seen (and forgotten), The Sentry. The Sentry's role has yet to be fully revealed, but trust me, gang, when I tell you it's going to blow your minds like the power of a thousand exploding suns!

Norman's DARK REIGN hasn't gone unchallenged, though. The New Avengers continue to be a thorn in his side and fight to take back their names. Tony Stark goes on the run, destroying himself in an effort to protect the heroes of the world. Meanwhile, in the heartland of the USA, Asgard has returned -- and with it, the Mighty THOR! Who knew that Osborn's reign of evil would lead to a final battle here? Then again, when Norman joins forces with Loki, what else could you expect?

And that brings us to now! What a trip, huh? Norman Osborn has assembled every villain working under him to take down Asgard. Thor's back, but things don't look so good for him. Iron Man's in a coma, and Steve Rogers once again returns to a world completely different than the one he left.



Who will live and who will die? And why is this the end of an entire era? That's what Siege is all about, my friends! So sit back, and watch the biggest battle you've seen in comic book history go down as the event seven years in the making finally happens. Pull up a seat, grab your popcorn and maybe a tissue or two, as Brian Michael Bendis, Olivier Coipel, and the greatest assemblage of heroes, villains, and creators in the Marvel U unleash a story that will leave you wondering "How can they EVER top that?!"

Keep reading!

See ya in the funny books!
JQ
EEK!

HAMMER DOCUMENT 68785895-78795 GDFBCV

TOP SECRET CODE-WHITE

ARES WAR PLAN TRANSCRIPT

MEETING CONDUCTED BY

HAMMER COMMANDER NORMAN OSBORN (IRON PATRIOT)

SECURITY LEVEL **TEN.** CODE CLEARANCE **WHITE.**

MEETING ATTENDED AND OBSERVED BY

DEPUTY DIRECTOR VICTORIA HAND

(SECURITY CLEARANCE LEVEL 9),

DR. KARLA SOFEN (MS. MARVEL), **DAKEN AKIHIRO** (WOLVERINE)

BENJAMIN POINDEXTER (HAWKEYE), **MACDONALD GARGAN** (SPIDER-MAN)

(SECURITY CLEARANCE LEVEL 5),

ROBERT REYNOLDS (THE SENTRY)

(SECURITY CLEARANCE LEVEL 2),

AND **TONY MASTERS** (TASKMASTER), **INITIATIVE COMMANDER**

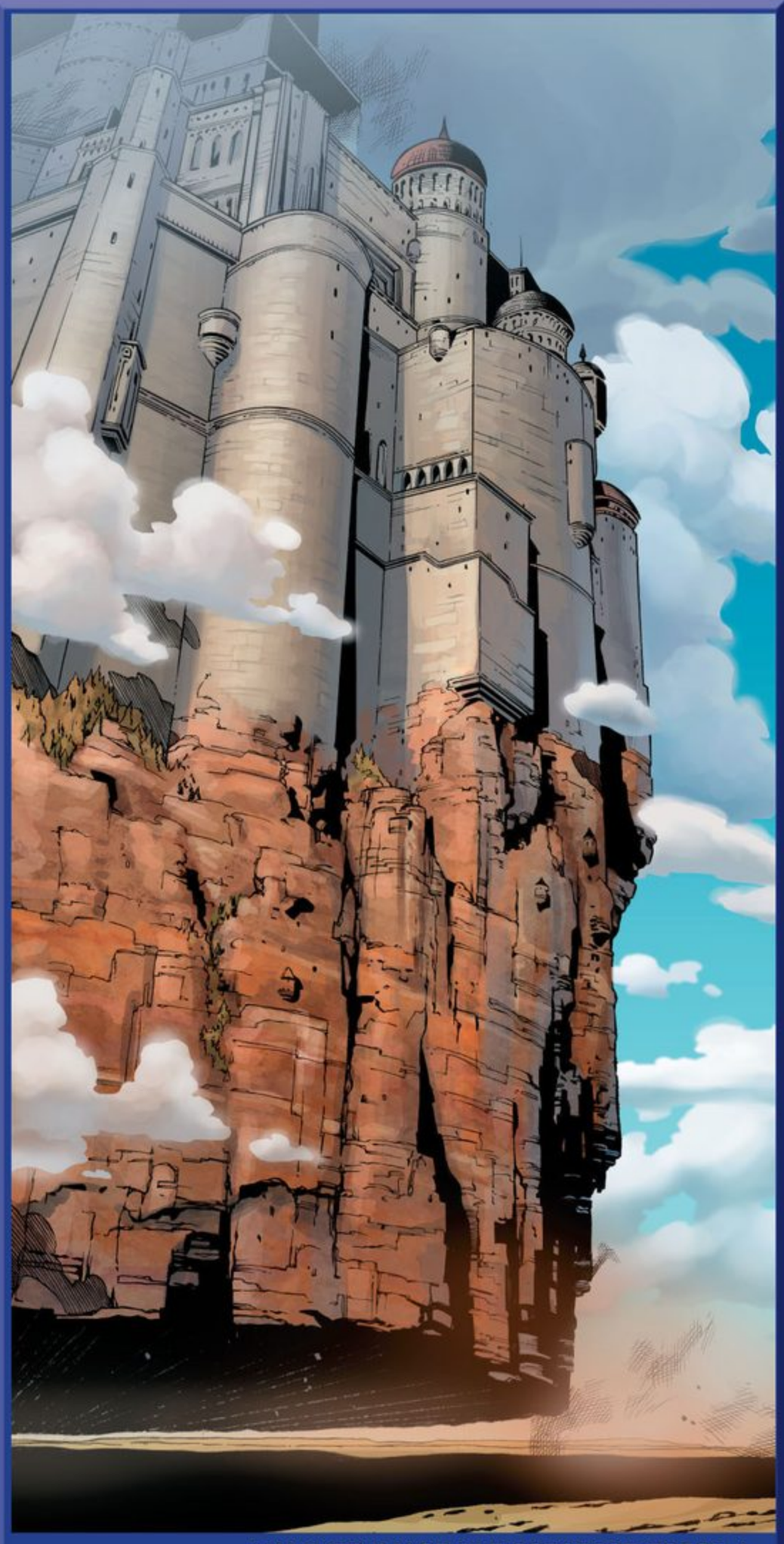
(SECURITY LEVEL 4).

RECORDING DATE: 4/5/2010

PLACE: **AVENGERS TOWER MEETING ROOM. NEW YORK CITY.**

SIEGE

NORMAN OSBORN: What we're talking about here does not leave this room.
MS. MARVEL: We're not allowed to leave this room.
NORMAN OSBORN: Good point. Ares…
ARES: Osborn has asked me to put together invasion scenarios for dealing with the floating city of Asgard currently located here on Earth.
HAWKEYE: I'm sorry, what?
SPIDER-MAN: When did we agree to that? I didn't agree to that.
NORMAN OSBORN: Settle.
SPIDER-MAN: I thought this was in theory.
NORMAN OSBORN: Settle.
VICTORIA HAND: People, sit and listen.
SPIDER-MAN: But--
VICTORIA HAND: You're not here to give us a but, you're here to listen and do. That's the deal.
ARES: The city is currently hovering 12 feet off the ground over the farmer's fields of--
HAWKEYE: I'm sorry, hold on.
VICTORIA HAND: Hawkeye, we need you to pay attention.
HAWKEYE: Oh, I'm paying attention. You expect us…all of us to go in there and start tussling with those guys?
NORMAN OSBORN: Asgard is in a position to threaten America and the American way of life.
HAWKEYE: So is McDonald's. Should we invade that too?
WOLVERINE: I think what Hawkeye is trying to say is there are Asgardian gods living there. A city of Asgardian gods. Am I right?
NORMAN OSBORN: Yes. And if you feel threatened by that, you should go with that feeling.
HAWKEYE: Exactly.
NORMAN OSBORN: There is a threat. Not only to our well-being, but to the natural order of



HAMMER IMAGE FILE 68785895-78795-A:
GROUND VIEW – ASGARD

HAMMER IMAGE FILE 68785895-78795-B:
STREET VIEW – BROXTON, OK, USA

HAMMER DOCUMENT 68785895-78795 GDFBCV
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HAMMER IMAGE FILE 68785895-78795-C:
AERIAL VIEW – ASGARD

things. This Asgard, it doesn't belong here. It's upsetting to the order of things.

SPIDER-MAN: Says who?

NORMAN OSBORN: Excuse me?

SPIDER-MAN: I mean, who says it ain't supposed to be here. It was there and now it's here. Who says no?

NORMAN OSBORN: God.

SPIDER-MAN: Really? Because I bet those guys kinda know more about God than you.

NORMAN OSBORN: It's not supposed to be here on Earth. It's not supposed to be in the United States.

HAWKEYE: How do you know?

ARES: Osborn is right. And I, son of Zeus, prince of Olympus, do know the true way of things. Asgard is part of a realm and it does not belong here. Something is wrong. The balance of the universe is upset.

HAWKEYE: And it's our problem how?

ARES: We're the Avengers. We're the protectors of this realm.

HAWKEYE: Uh-huh.

MS. MARVEL: It does seem sort of beyond our pay grade, Norman. Mathematically.

NORMAN OSBORN: You agreed to the role of the Avengers. This--this is what the Avengers do.

SPIDER-MAN: That's what those Avengers did. The old ones. And if you'll notice they ain't exactly Avengers no more.

HAWKEYE: Exactly, this is the kind of crap we should be avoiding.

SPIDER-MAN: There's no win.

HAWKEYE: There's no angle. It's just picking a fight.

ARES: You call yourself a man?

HAWKEYE: I do.

ARES: Then why do you speak as a child?

HAWKEYE: Yeah. See…he is the god of war. And there's just one of him. And I am now shutting my ass up. And I am a badass man. I'm known, specifically, as a badass. And one of them, just one, got me to shut the hell up.

NORMAN OSBORN: I'm ignoring you and moving forward.

HAWKEYE: Ignoring me?

THE SENTRY: And the idea of us living together in harmony is a stupid idea because…?

NORMAN OSBORN: We have to assume that the Asgardians, with their superior strength, technology and everything else, are a threat to us

SIEGE

and our way of life.
THE SENTRY: Because?
NORMAN OSBORN: Yes. There are other ways to look at it. But that's not what we are here to do. We are put on this Earth to see a thing like this as a threat and a threat that needs to be dealt with. That is what we are charged to do. Others can sit back and fantasize about a world of immortals and mortals cohabitating together in Xanadu and euphoria. We do not get to do that. We are men of war. Ares?
ARES: We will have one chance at a surprise attack. One and one only. The target of the attack is clear. You see the outpost? There.
ARES: There is our primary target.
TASKMASTER: What is it?
ARES: That is Heimdall's observatory. Heimdall is their protector. He protects the gates of the realm and watches over all others. He can see and hear as far as creation.
TASKMASTER: So maybe he's watching us?
ARES: One would surmise no. One would imagine he sees no threat here.
HAWKEYE: And he'd be right.
ARES: But the observatory also holds, or once held, the entrance to the Bifröst. The legendary rainbow bridge that allows any Asgardian under Odin's rule to travel from one realm to the next. I do not know if this new Asgard still uses Bifröst but if they do, and I would assume so, then the observatory has to be destroyed in our first strike. It is the only chance those living on Asgard will have to call in reinforcements. Asgard has to be cut off. No way in and no way out. You, Robert, you will strike the observatory like a golden bullet. You will destroy it and anyone in it. This will cut them off from calling in reserves and give up the momentary upper hand. From there, we will head as one, as a frontline, toward's Odin's throneroom.
WOLVERINE: And bombing the hell out of the place is out of the question because...?
NORMAN OSBORN: Asgard is right next to, and I mean on top of, a small, all-American town. We are not going to take that risk.
HAWKEYE: Why don't we just use

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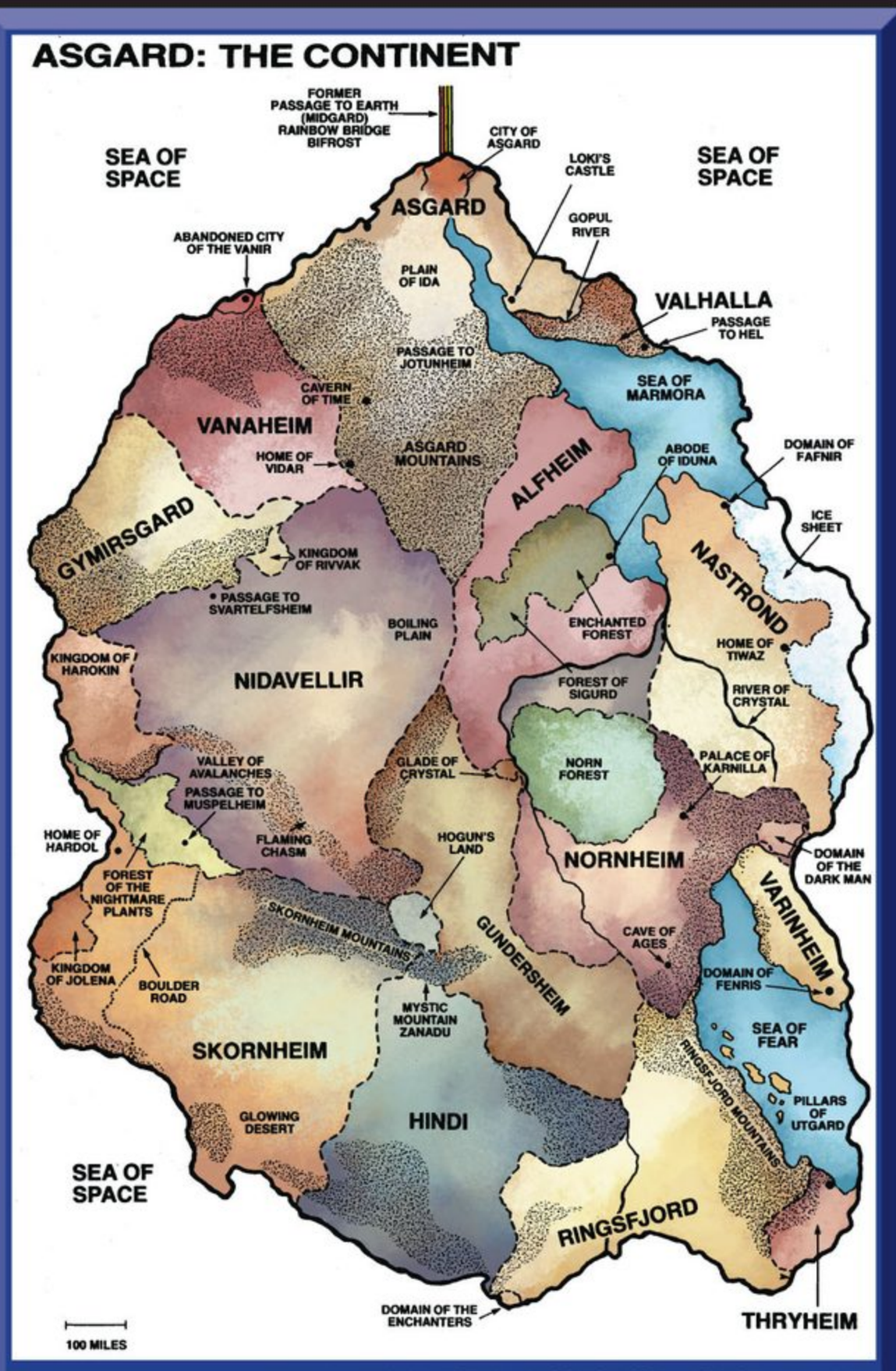
HEIMDALL'S OBSERVATORY



HAMMER IMAGE FILE 68785895-78795-E-MAP:
ASGARDIAN CONTINENT

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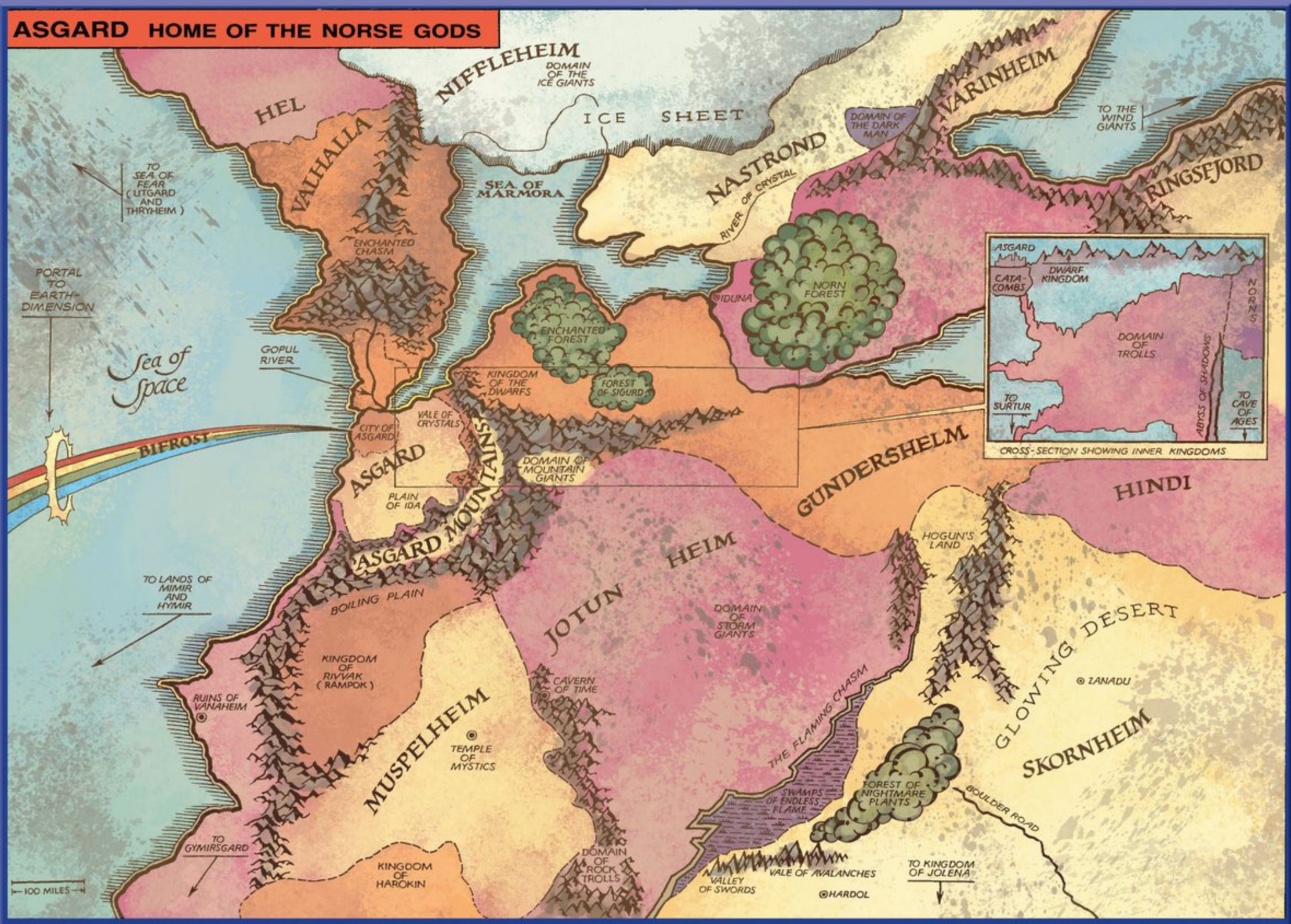

HAMMER IMAGE FILE 68785895-78795-F-MAP:
ASGARDIAN CONTINENT, DETAIL

blondie here to golden bullet the hell out of the place until he's out of steam?

ARES: Because that is not a plan.

HAWKEYE: Okay, Mister Plan, what happens when the Asgardians mop the floor with us?

NORMAN OSBORN: We're the first wave. There are others. There is back-up.

HAWKEYE: And I'll just ask so I can tell myself I asked: and who would that be?

NORMAN OSBORN: It's top secret.

HAWKEYE: Of course it is.

WOLVERINE: Is it someone who will make a difference?

NORMAN OSBORN: It's someone who can fight this fight.

MS. MARVEL: On an Asgardian level.

NORMAN OSBORN: Exactly at that level.

HAWKEYE: Then why not send them in as the front line?

NORMAN OSBORN: Because this win has to be our win. It has to be us. Or it doesn't count.

SPIDER-MAN: And we do this, we're done. That's the deal. We're free to go.

NORMAN OSBORN: That is the deal.

MS. MARVEL: The fact that you are ready to offer that makes us feel like you don't think there's a chance we're going to make it out of there alive.

NORMAN OSBORN: Quite the contrary. I have all the faith in the world. There's a lot more riding on this than just your wasted-up-until-now lives.

VICTORIA HAND: We want you, each of you, to study these maps and intel. In this room. You don't leave the room. Study them. Find positions for yourselves once the battle has started. We'll need people in the air, on the ground. We'll need ground troops and snipers. Study. We're doing this smart. I'd ask if anyone had any questions but you've already asked more than any of us wanted to hear.

SPIDER-MAN: But what about--

VICTORIA HAND: No. Stop. No talking. It's reading time.

SPIDER-MAN: But--

VICTORIA HAND: Do you need a time-out?

End of transmission.

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